

February 23, 1947.

Chairman, Committee on Military Affairs and Public Safety,  
State House,  
Boston 33, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The Massachusetts Rifle Association wishes to be recorded as opposed to the enactment into law of Senate Bill No. 239, which provides for the registration of firearms of every type now possessed in the Commonwealth.

Among the many reasons that might be urged against the passage of this proposed law is the possibility of such a list getting into the hands of underworld characters; they would then no longer be under the necessity of robbing gun shops and arsenals; they would know exactly where the very firearm they wanted could be obtained.

Yours very truly,

Jas. P. Drumgoole.  
Secretary.

P.O. Box 292 Back Bay,  
Boston 17.



April 18, 1952.

The Honorable Leverett Saltonstall,  
Senate Office Building,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Saltonstall:

No doubt the action of the House Military Appropriation Committee on H.R. 7391, the Department of Defense appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1953, omitting all funds for the maintenance of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, is known to you.

The Department of Defense requested \$799,000 for the National Board. From this sum the Bureau of the Budget removed \$669,000 intended for the purchase of 30 caliber and 28 caliber ammunition for issue to rifle clubs for training and qualification firing, and recommended to Congress the remaining sum of \$130,000, the same amount granted for 1952. The House Military appropriation Committee has eliminated this \$130,000, explaining its action in the following language:

"The Committee recommends the deletion of this item (Promotion of Rifle Practice) for which \$130,000 was requested. This action is based on (a) that the program neither accomplishes nor is required (sic) to interest our youth in the handling of small arms, (b) that it does not add to the effectiveness of our defenses, and (c) that if it is to be continued, considerably larger sums would be required to supply ammunition with no real benefit to the nation as a whole."

This action of the House committee will put the office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship completely out of business. The sale of ammunition, parts, and other supplies to rifle clubs will no longer be possible. All government property on loan to rifle clubs (iron target frames, etc.) will have to be returned to the government. This requirement will seriously cripple most rifle clubs, and the entire program of civilian marksmanship training will cease.

No one needs to be reminded of the value of trained riflemen in the national defense. One rifleman in a squad will make marksmen of his comrades, able at least to pull a trigger without closing their eyes.

This club, the oldest in continual existence in the United States, is not interested in property on loan from the government. It purchased from the government several years ago, all such



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supplies it possesses; but it is interested in the purpose for which it was founded, namely, "the promotion of rifle practice," and it does deem it unwise at this time of national emergency to refuse this comparatively trifling sum of \$130,000 requested by the Department of Defense.

Respectfully,

J.P.Drumgoole  
Secretary.



April 18, 1952.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.,  
Senate Office Building,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Lodge:

No doubt the action of the House Military Appropriation Committee on H.R. 7391, the Department of Defense appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1953, omitting all funds for the maintenance of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, is known to you.

The Department of Defense requested \$799,000 for the National Board. From this sum the Bureau of the Budget removed \$669,000 intended for the purchase of 30 caliber and 22 caliber ammunition for issue to rifle clubs for training and qualification firing, and recommended to Congress the remaining sum of \$130,000, the same amount granted for 1952. The House Military Appropriation Committee has eliminated this \$130,000, explaining its action in the following language:

"The Committee recommends the deletion of this item (Promotion of Rifle Practice) for which \$130,000 was requested. This action is based on (a) that the program neither accomplishes nor is required (sic) to interest our youth in the handling of small arms, (b) that it does not add to the effectiveness of our defenses, and (c) that if it is to be continued, considerably larger sums would be required to supply ammunition with no real benefit to the nation as a whole."

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This club, the oldest in continual existence in the United States, is not interested in property on loan from the government, as it purchased from the government several years ago, all such supplies it possesses; but it is interested in the purpose for



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Apr. 18, 1952.

which it was founded, namely, "the promotion of rifle practice." and it deems it unwise at this time of national emergency to refuse this comparatively trifling sum of \$130,000 requested by the Department of Defense.

Respectfully,

J.P.Drumgoole.  
Secretary.



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

April 22, 1952

Mr. J. P. Drumgoole  
Secretary  
Massachusetts Rifle Association  
Box 292, Back Bay  
Boston 17, Massachusetts

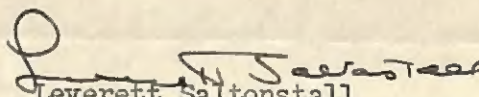
Dear Mr. Drumgoole:

This will acknowledge with my thanks your letter of April 18th regarding the appropriation for the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice.

I appreciate your comments and am glad to have them in hand.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, you may be sure that this matter is receiving my close attention and when both the Committee and the full Senate have occasion to act regarding this appropriation I will have very much in mind your views with respect to it.

Sincerely yours,

  
Leverett Saltonstall  
United States Senator

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TOM CONNALLY, TEX., CHAIRMAN

WALTER F. GEORGE, GA.

THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.

BRIEN MCMAHON, CONN.

J. W. FULBRIGHT, ARK.

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OWEN BREWSTER, MAINE

FRANCIS O. WILCOX, CHIEF OF STAFF  
C. C. O'DAY, CLERK

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

April 23, 1952

J. P. Drumgoole, Secretary  
Massachusetts Rifle Association  
Box 292 Back Bay  
Boston 17, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Drumgoole:

Thank you for your communication. I appreciate very much your writing to advise me of your particular interest in appropriations for the continuance of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and the Office of Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

Although hearings on the appropriation bill in question have not as yet commenced before the Senate Appropriations Committee, of which I am not a member, I will be glad to express to the committee my own interest in this particular matter and to urge all possible consideration of the argument you present in support of these funds.

Very sincerely yours,

*Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.*  
Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.  
United States Senator



TOM CONNALLY, TEX., CHAIRMAN

WALTER F. GEORGE, GA.  
THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.  
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C. C. O'DAY, CLERK

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 16, 1952

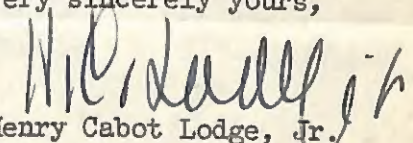
J. P. Drumgoole, Secretary  
Massachusetts Rifle Association  
Box 292 Back Bay  
Boston 17, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Drumgoole:

In view of the interest which you recently expressed regarding funds for the promotion of rifle practice, it occurred to me that you would be interested in the enclosed amendment which I have introduced restoring the cut made by the House of Representatives.

I shall do my utmost to insure favorable action on this amendment.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.  
United States Senator



82<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7391

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 1952

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

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## AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. LODGE to the bill (H. R. 7391) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and related independent agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953, and for other purposes, viz: Page 15, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

- 1                   PROMOTION OF RIFLE PRACTICE, ARMY
- 2           For necessary expenses of construction, equipment, and
- 3 maintenance of rifle ranges, the instruction of citizens in
- 4 marksmanship, and promotion of rifle practice, in accordance
- 5 with the Act of August 29, 1916 (39 Stat. 643), and the
- 6 provisions of law contained in 10 U. S. C. 1184-1185 and
- 7 32 U. S. C. 181-186, including travel of rifle teams, mili-
- 8 tary personnel and individuals attending regional, national,



1 and international competitions, and not to exceed \$18,000  
 2 for incidental expenses of the National Board, \$130,000:  
 3 *Provided*, That travel expenses of civilian members of the  
 4 National Board shall be paid in accordance with the Stand-  
 5 ardized Government Travel Regulations, as amended.

82d CONGRESS  
 2d Session

## H. R. 7391

### AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. Loper to the bill  
 (H. R. 7391) making appropriations for the  
 Department of Defense and related inde-  
 pendent agencies for the fiscal year ending  
 June 30, 1953, and for other purposes.

MAY 12, 1952

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and  
 ordered to be printed